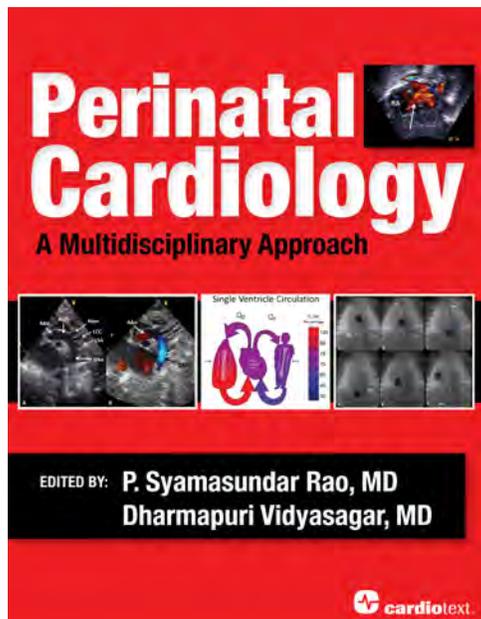


e-Book Review: Perinatal Cardiology: A Multidisciplinary Approach

By John W. Moore, MD, MPH



"Perinatal Cardiology: A Multidisciplinary Approach," Edited by: P. Syamasundar Rao, MD, DCH, FAAP, FACC, FSCAI; University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston, Texas and Dharmapuri Vidyasagar, MD, MSc, FAAP, FCCM, PhD (Hon), University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

In the current era, paper textbooks have literally been placed on the "back shelf." Doctors Rao and Vidyasagar clearly understand this. They have edited an e-book, which is available to purchase and download from Cardiotext Publishing in Minneapolis, Minnesota (<https://cardiotextpublishing.com/perinatal-cardiology>). You can also get additional detail on the chapters and the authors.

In present day practice, Perinatal Cardiology has itself become a distinct medical discipline. Nearly all infants born with Complex Congenital Heart Disease in the United States have been identified as fetuses. Their parents have been counseled, and plans for comprehensive care starting at the time of fetal diagnosis, through delivery and the neonatal period have been made. Often plans include neonatal cardiac surgery and/or cardiac intervention. The success of these cardiac treatments often depend on optimal care of the fetus, timely and controlled delivery and resuscitation of the infant, and optimal stabilization and critical care of the infant prior to cardiac treatments.

Doctors Rao and Vidyasagar have edited and authored a comprehensive and detailed text on all aspects of perinatal cardiology.

In the Forward, Rao and Vidyasagar identify three objectives of this e-book: First, to provide readers with an overview of advances in the disciplines of perinatology, neonatology, cardiology, and cardiac surgery with regard to early diagnosis and timely treatment options. In addition, readers will find discussions of the multidisciplinary approaches commonly employed today in managing infants with congenital cardiac lesions. Lastly, this book provides current evidence-based therapeutic approaches for treatment of the fetus and the newborn with congenital cardiac lesions.

The objectives are achieved in forty-four chapters, written by a variety of authors. However, it's fair to say that Doctor Rao himself has written or contributed to the majority of these chapters. That said, the chapters are wide ranging, covering such diverse topics as MRI and CT imaging and anesthesia, as well as common topics such as oximetry screening, and treatment of premature lung disease and the PDA. In addition, there are detailed chapters on each of the individual congenital cardiac lesions (e.g. Truncus Arteriosus), as well as acquired problems such as cardiomyopathy.

My favorite chapter is on cardiac embryology. Always a complicated subject, Rao et. al. have succeeded in making this material understandable through clear and concise text and simple but complete diagrams.

I highly recommend this book. It is really all you need to be up-to-date on Perinatal Cardiology, and to manage your practice. Whether you are a pediatric cardiologist, a perinatologist, a neonatologist, or you are in training to be one of these specialists; this is a terrific reference and guide for you. If you are a cardiac or pediatric surgeon, this book will also be of interest to you because it covers the comprehensive care and management of your surgical patients.

Furthermore, the Editors and Staff of *Congenital Cardiology Today* and *Neonatology Today* are particularly pleased that Rao and Vidyasagar have selected many diagrams and figures from their previous publications in our newsletters to appear in the e-Book.

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